Herbert A. Simon

American political scientist, economist, sociologist and psychologist, professor at Carnegie Mellon University. Winner of the Nobel Prize in Economics (1978).

Herbert Alexander Simon was born on June 15, 1916 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. His father was an electrical engineer and his mother was a gifted pianist. Herbert attended a public school, which fostered in him a penchant for science. The boy found his studies entertaining, but too simple. His interest in the study of human behavior was influenced by his uncle, who studied economics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Herbert read his uncle's books on economics and psychology, discovering the field of social sciences. In 1933, Simon entered the University of Chicago, where he studied social studies and mathematics. He was very interested in biology, but because of his color blindness he preferred to focus on political science and economics. In 1936, Simon received a bachelor's degree, and in 1943 he defended his doctoral dissertation on organizational decision.

From 1939 to 1942, Simon was director of a research group at the University of California, Berkeley and then he moved on to the faculty of the Illinois Institute of Technology, where he taught political science and also headed the department. Back in Chicago, he began a deeper study of economics. In 1949, Simon became professor of administration and headed the Faculty of Industrial Management at the Carnegie Institute of Technology, and continued to teach in various departments of the university until his death. Herbert Simon died on February 9, 2001, at the age of 84, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Simon was an extraordinary person who was one of the founders of scientific industries studying the problems of artificial intelligence, information processing, decision making, problem solving, attention economics, organization theory, complex systems, and computer modeling of scientific discovery. He was the first to introduce concepts such as 'bounded rationality' and 'satisficing', he was the first to analyze the nature of organized complexity, and proposed a 'preferential attachment' mechanism to explain the distribution of power-law dependence.

Simon's achievements in the world of science have been crowned with numerous awards, including the 1975 Turing Award for "fundamental contributions to artificial intelligence, the psychology of human perception mechanisms and processing of lists"; 1978 Nobel Prize in Economics for 'groundbreaking research on decision-making within economic organizations';

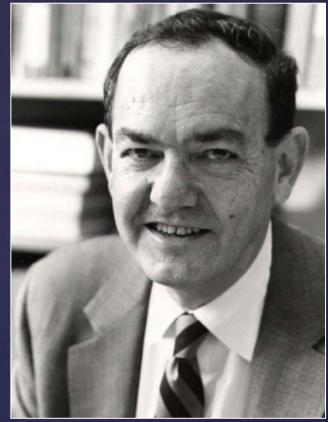
1986 National Medal of Science and 1993 American Psychological Association Distinguished Contribution to Psychology Award.

I believe that he managed to achieve recognition and fame because of his curiosity, perseverance and ambition. His desire to comprehend new things, as well as hard work helped him throughout his life. Qualities such as intelligence and responsibility contributed to the definition of his life path.

Herbert A. Simon

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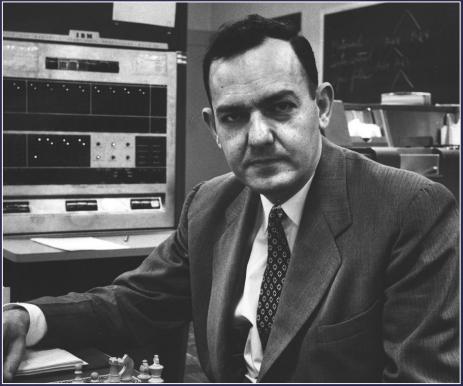




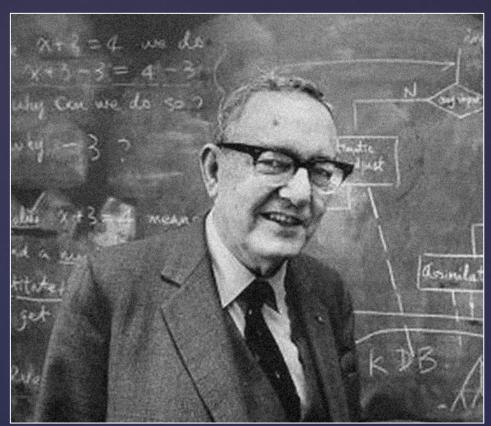


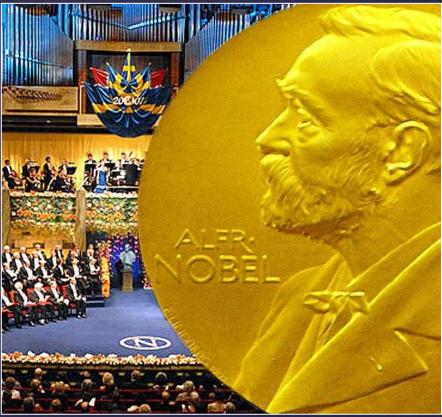
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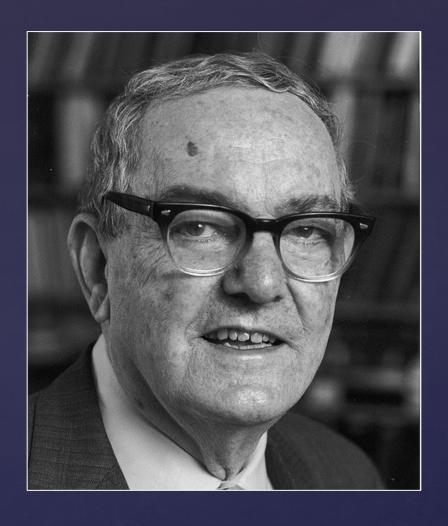


Simon was one of the founders of scientific industries studying the problems of artificial intelligence, information processing, decision making, problem solving and many others. He was the first to introduce concepts such as 'bounded rationality' and 'satisficing'





He received many top-level honors in life, including the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economics "for his pioneering research into the decision-making process within economic organizations" (1978)



Herbert Simon died on February 9, 2001, at the age of 84, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His contribution to science as well as curiosity, perseverance, ambition and hard work helped him achieve recognition and fame.